

Paragraph beginning at line 10 of page 11 has been amended as follows:

A9 The foregoing detailed description of the preferred implementations of the present invention has been presented by way of example only, and it is not intended to be considered limiting to the invention as defined in the appended claims and the equivalents thereof.

In the Claims:

Claims 1-12 have been amended as follows:

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1. (Amended) A video signal processing system, comprising: for each colour channel, a control circuit and clamping circuit for generating a colour channel reference signal and controlling a colour channel video signal, and a brightness limitation circuit coupled to receive the colour channel reference signal from each of the colour channels and coupled to provide a feedback signal to regulate a brightness level of each video signal according to a comparison of a minimum signal level amongst the colour channel reference signal sand a fixed reference signal level.

2. (Amended) The video signal processing system of claim 1, wherein the brightness limitation circuit comprises a minimum detection circuit for detecting and outputting a minimum signal level from amongst the colour channel reference signals, and a comparator having as inputs said fixed reference signal level and said minimum signal level, and producing said feedback signal as output.

3. (Amended) The video signal processing system of claim 2, wherein said comparator is coupled to receive said minimum signal level at its negative input and said fixed reference signal level at its positive input.

4. (Amended) The video signal processing system of claim 2, wherein each said control circuit includes a plurality of adders coupled in the signal path of the corresponding

colour channel reference signal, and wherein said feedback signal is coupled as input to one of said adders.

5. (Amended) The video signal processing system of claim 4, wherein said feedback signal is coupled from the brightness limitation circuit to the control circuit by way of a brightness control circuit which enables manual brightness adjustment of the colour channels.

6. (Amended) The video signal processing system of claim 5, wherein said brightness control circuit incorporates an adder for combining the feedback signal with a manual brightness adjustment signal.

7. (Amended) The video signal processing system of claim 4, further including at least one cut-off adjustment circuit coupled to provide input to a respective adder in the signal path of the colour channel reference signal in each control circuit.

8. (Amended) The video signal processing system of claim 1, wherein each said control circuit includes an adder circuit coupled in the signal path of the corresponding colour channel video signal, and wherein a feedback signal from said clamping circuit, generated according to the colour channel video signal and the colour channel reference signal, is coupled as input to the adder circuit.

9. (Amended) A video signal processing circuit for regulating colour channel video information signals, comprising: a minimum signal detector for detecting a minimum signal level amongst a plurality of colour channel reference signals, a comparator that compares said minimum signal level with a fixed voltage reference signal and generates a corresponding output, and an additive feedback coupling of said comparator output signal and each of said colour channel reference signals.

10. (Amended) The video signal processing circuit of claim 9, comprising a brightness control circuit for adjusting the video signal brightness level by manual adjustment of

said colour channel reference signals, wherein said additive feedback coupling of said comparator output signal is coupled through said brightness control circuit.

11. (Amended) A video signal brightness controller, comprising:

a plurality of colour channel control means each coupled to receive as input a respective colour channel video signal and colour channel reference signal and to generate a respective adjusted colour channel video signal and adjusted colour channel reference signal;

a plurality of clamping means, each clamping means corresponding to a respective colour channel control means and coupled to receive as input the respective adjusted colour channel video signal and adjusted colour channel reference signal and to produce a corresponding clamping feedback signal; and

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a brightness limitation means coupled to receive the adjusted colour channel reference signal from each colour channel control means to produce a corresponding brightness feedback signal;

wherein each said colour channel control means includes a first adder in path of the colour channel video signal, to which said clamping feedback signal is coupled, and a second adder in the path of the colour channel reference signal, to which said brightness feedback signal is coupled.

12. (Amended) The video signal brightness controller of claim 11, wherein said brightness limitation means comprises a minimum signal level detector or detecting a minimum signal level from among the plurality of adjusted colour channel reference signals, and a comparator for generating said brightness feedback signal on the basis of the detected minimum signal level and a fixed reference signal level.

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Please add new claims 14-20 to read as follows:

14. (New) A video signal brightness control circuit for regulating brightness of at least one color video channel, comprising:

a brightness limitation control circuit configured to receive a plurality of color reference signals and configured to generate a feedback signal to regulate the brightness of the at least one color-video channel.

15. (New) A video signal brightness control circuit for regulating brightness of at least one color video channel, comprising:

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control*

a brightness limitation control circuit to receive a color reference signal from the at least one color video channel and configured to generate a feedback signal to regulate the brightness of the at least one color-video channel, the feedback signal responsive to a comparison between a reference signal and a minimum signal level from the color reference signal from the at least one color video channel.

16. (New) A video signal brightness control circuit, comprising:

a plurality of color channel control circuits, each configured to receive a respective color channel video signal at a first adder and a color channel reference signal at a second adder and to generate a respective adjusted color channel video signal and adjusted color reference signal;

a plurality of clamping circuits, each coupled to a respective color channel control circuit to receive the adjusted color channel video signal and adjusted color reference signal and configured to generate a respective video clamping feedback signal that is received at the first adder of the respective color channel control circuit; and

a brightness limitation circuit coupled to each of the plurality of color channel control circuits and configured to generate a brightness feedback signal to the second adder in the respective color channel control circuit.

17. (New) A video signal brightness control circuit for regulating brightness of a plurality of color video channels, comprising:

a plurality of color channel control circuits each configured to receive a respective color channel video signal at a first adder and a color channel reference signal at a second adder and to generate a respective adjusted color channel video signal and adjusted color reference signal;

a plurality of clamping circuits each coupled to a respective color channel control circuit, each configured to receive the adjusted color channel video signal and the adjusted color reference signal and to generate respective clamping feedback signals that are received by the respective color channel control circuits at the first adder;

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a brightness limitation circuit coupled to each of the plurality of color channel control circuits and configured to receive the adjusted color channel video signal from each of the color channel control circuits and to generate a brightness feedback signal; and

a brightness circuit coupled to the brightness limitation circuit for each of the color video channels and configured to generate a user-adjustable brightness limitation signal to the second adder in each of the plurality of color channel control circuits.

18. (New) A method of controlling video signal brightness of a color video channel, comprising:

receiving a color channel video signal and a color channel reference signal and generating in response thereto an adjusted color channel video signal and an adjusted color reference signal;

receiving the adjusted color channel video signal and adjusted color reference signal and generating in response thereto a clamping feedback signal;

adding the clamping feedback signal to the color channel video signal; and

receiving the adjusted color channel video signal and generating in response thereto a brightness limitation signal that is added to the color channel reference signal.

19. (New) A method of controlling video signal brightness of a plurality of color video channels, comprising:

receiving a plurality of color channel video signals and corresponding color channel reference signals and generating in response thereto respective adjusted color channel video signals and adjusted color reference signals;

receiving the adjusted color channel video signals and adjusted color reference signals and generating in response thereto respective clamping feedback signals;

adding the clamping feedback signals to the color channel video signals; and

receiving the adjusted color channel video signals and generating in response thereto a respective brightness limitation signal that is added to the color channel reference signal.

20. (New) A method of controlling video signal brightness of a color video channel, comprising:

receiving at a color channel control circuit a color channel video signal and a color channel reference signal and generating in response thereto an adjusted color channel video signal and an adjusted color reference signal;

receiving at a clamping circuit the adjusted color channel video signal and adjusted color reference signal and generating in response thereto a clamping feedback signal;

receiving the clamping feedback signal at the color channel control circuit and adding the clamping feedback signal to the color channel video signal; and

receiving the adjusted color channel video signal at a brightness limitation circuit and generating in response thereto a brightness limitation signal that is received at the color channel control circuit and added to the color channel reference signal.

In the Abstract:

The Abstract has been amended as follows:

A brightness limitation system is employed in a television circuit to prevent the black reference voltage level and the video signal from entering a minimum signal clipping zone, to provide precise correction signal, limiting the brightness, to maintain a constant black